

John Tyler to Andrew Jackson, September 20, 1842, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>PRESIDENT TYLER TO JACKSON.

Rip Raps, Va. , September 20, 1842.

My Dear Sir, I owe you my sincere acknowledgments for your kind letter of the 18th August which should have been sooner made but for the extreme pressure upon my time owing to the extraordinary course pursued by the most extraordinary Congress ever known in our annals, and since its adjournment to a bereavement under Providence, of the severe and afflictive character of which, no man can better judge than yourself. 1 I have repaired to this place for the double purpose of repose and seclusion, and I now take occasion to express to you my sincere thanks for the communication of your approval of my recent course. The condition in which I found myself plac'd by the death of the President elect, was one of immense difficulty and embarrassment. Reard as I had been in the Republican school, I very soon discoverd that nothing short of a total abandonment of most warmly cherished political opinions could shelter me from the virulent abuse of the then dominant party, but the question between Country and Party, was that which was presented to me, and I could not hesitate in making the decision. That I was correct in my determination the approbation which you have been kind enough to express, most fully assures me. The plaudits of the multitude have now received the endorsement of the sage in his closet, and I shall with renewed resolution continue to do battle under the

1 President Tyler's first wife, Letitia Christian Tyler, died on Sept. 9, 1842.

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192 168 principles which distinguished our republican forefathers, believing that it is only by doing so that the blessings of civil liberty can be handed down to a remote posterity.

The letter addressed to you by the Grandson of Genl. Kosciusko and by you enclosed to me, has been handed over to the Secretary of War for enquiry into the nature and justice of the claim.

I shall at all times experience a lively satisfaction in hearing from you, and shall be flattered in receiving from you any suggestions relative to the conduct of public affairs. In addition to the tender of my highest assurances of respect and esteem, be pleased to accept my best wishes for your health happiness and long life.